

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Thank you, Congresswoman ESTY, and thank you for your work on the task force and for your work every day to make sure that we all come together to make our communities safer places to live, to work, to recreate, and to raise our families.

One of the things, one of the beautiful benefits of doing this work for me has been the honor I've had in not only working with great dedicated people, yourself included, but meeting some of your wonderful constituents. Their passion is on fire in Connecticut. I've met with them many times with you, sometimes alone. We got another glimpse of it yesterday, as you mentioned, when Team 26 rode into Washington, D.C., rode all the way from your district to Washington, D.C., to call on all of us to work together to pass these bills to make our communities safer. They're wonderful folks, they're dedicated, they're hard-working, and I can understand why after watching you and experiencing your leadership on this issue. So thank you very much for all that you are doing.

And I just want to remind folks that the American people want us to make our communities safer; they want us to pass sensible laws that will do this. And everyone will tell you we shouldn't allow criminals and the dangerously mentally ill to get firearms.

Well, how in the world can you do that if you don't do some just real commonsense steps to make sure that doesn't happen?

We're talking about a couple of them today—straw purchases and gun trafficking.

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Who in the world could be opposed to stopping straw purchases? And that means just what it says. That means somebody buys a gun and gives it to somebody who's not allowed by law to own a gun, who is trafficking in guns, making a living, making a profit, making a business out of buying guns and then shipping them someplace, taking them someplace, introducing them to a community where they're going to be used for unlawful purposes. No one could possibly be against that.

Background checks is another one. As you know, our task force will be holding a hearing this Friday on background checks. Ninety-four percent of the American people believe we should pass background checks. Eighty-four percent of the NRA members think we should pass a background check bill. We're going to have an opportunity next week when I introduce legislation to put in place background checks for the American people to call their Representatives and let them know. This is important stuff. We need to have that check in place so people who are dangerously mentally ill, people who are criminals, if they try and buy a gun from someone selling that gun, it will be flagged if they're not allowed to have them and they'll be stopped, at least in that case. They may try and

find other ways to do it, but it's incumbent upon us to do everything we can to make sure that that doesn't happen again.

I'm now going to yield to my friend and colleague, the vice chair of the task force, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT).

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. I thank you for yielding, and most of all I thank you for your leadership in the firearms task force, the prevention of gun violence.

You've done a tremendous job in bringing diverse views into focus to respond appropriately to the children who were murdered senselessly in Newtown, Connecticut. They were young people, babies, whose bodies were riddled with bullets. I think finally we have concluded that we have to do something in response to the murders.

One of the things we have to do is reduce violence generally—and violence prevention. This week I'll be introducing the Youth PROMISE Act, which has a proactive approach to make sure that young people get on the right track and stay on the right track.

We have to deal, as you have indicated, with the mental health challenges. Those with mental health challenges have to get services, because if they're allowed to roam the streets with untreated mental health problems, you have a lot of difficulties.

There have to be some firearm-specific situations, such as an assault weapons ban, limiting the size of magazines, background checks, but also straw purchases, people who buy firearms for others knowing they could not buy them for themselves. Violating the law and circumventing the good background check processes we have has to be dealt with.

So I thank you for your leadership. I thank you for all that you have done. We have a lot that we can do in response to Newtown, and we expect to do it.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. I thank the gentleman for being here tonight and for his leadership.

Madam Speaker, I'll end where I started. As I said, we have to come together to work on these issues. These are the issues that the American people want us to find solutions for. Let's close these loopholes, make sure that illegal gun activity doesn't take place, and protect the Second Amendment. You know I'm four-square on that, and we'll do everything we can to make sure that that happens. These are commonsense issues, and we should find cooperation across the aisle.

As I said, I'll end where I started. I call on my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join together and to pass these bills that both protect our Second Amendment rights and help make our communities safer places in which to live, work, play, and raise our families.

Madam Speaker, thank you, and I yield back the balance of my time.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 24 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, March 14, 2013, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

671. A letter from the Acting Chief Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation [CPCLO Order No.: 001-2013] received February 25, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

672. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1070; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-099-AD; Amendment 39-17340; AD 2013-03-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

673. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0098; Directorate Identifier 2011-SW-039-AD; Amendment 39-17339; AD 2013-03-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

674. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1110; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-013-AD; Amendment No.: 39-17353; AD 2013-03-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

675. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corp Turboshaft Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1005; Directorate Identifier 2012-NE-27-AD; Amendment 39-17349; AD 2013-03-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

676. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Lycoming Engines and Continental Motors, Inc. Reciprocating Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1245; Directorate Identifier 2012-NE-41-AD; Amendment 39-17279; AD 2012-24-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

677. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0339; Directorate Identifier 2011-SW-051-AD; Amendment 39-17259; AD 2012-23-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 27, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

678. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0590; Directorate Identifier